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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 2 March 1951

SUBJECT AAA Protection of Oder and Elbe
River Crossings

NO. OF PAGES 2

PLACE ACQUIRED [REDACTED] 25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO. 25X1C
[REDACTED]

25X1X

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. No AA guns were observed at the Oder River bridges at Frankfurt/Oder on 13 December 1950. (1)
2. No AA guns were observed at the Elbe River bridge in Wittenberge on 11 December. Only two German policemen patrolled the bridge. (2)
3. No AA gun emplacements were observed at the Elbe River bridges in Magdeburg. The following bridges were checked:
 - a. Railroad bridge to Friedrichstadt reserved for freight traffic across both the Stromelbe (city plan 3/6) and the old Elbe River (city plan H/8). German policeman guarded the latter bridge.
 - b. Bridges along Brueckenstrasse (city plan H/8 and H/7), i.e. the Strombruecke, Zollbruecke, and Lange Bruecke. Police guards were seen at the Strombruecke.
 - c. Herrenkrug Bruecke (city plan J/8).
 - d. Nord Bruecke (city plan K/8). The bridge has not been reopened to traffic. The bridge piers were being repaired.
 - e. Railroad bridge (city plan L/9). The bridge could not be approached. No AA gun emplacements were seen within a radius of about 400 meters. No such emplacements were noticed from the railroad line either. (3)
4. A wooden shed has been set up by the Volkspolizei on the western approach to the Autobahn. Papers will be checked there. The Autobahn bridge at Fockerode near Dessau still has only one lane. Reconstruction work, which began last fall, has been suspended. Speed on the bridge is limited to 10 km/h. A system of Soviet bunkers with well-camouflaged field fortifications was about 50 meters from the bridge between the Elbe River and the river levee. The installation covered an area of about 100 meters square and was estimated to be occupied by 30 Soviet soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets without

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branch-of-service insignia. Heavy weapons were not observed. A sentry was observed on the other side of the Elbe River levee, two sentries between the bunkers and the bridge, and another sentry downstream from the bunkers. No AA gun emplacements were observed. All sentries wore red-bordered black epaulets. (4) and (5)

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Comments.

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(1) Confirms observations of 9 December 1950 by another source. See [REDACTED].

(2) This bridge was checked for the first time.

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(3) This information confirms observations of 6 December 1950 by another source. See [REDACTED].

(4) The information indicates that even the important Autobahn bridge is not protected by AA guns but only by a Soviet guard detail.

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(5) On the basis of available information almost none of the bridges across the Elbe, Oder or Neisse Rivers are protected by emplaced AA guns. See [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

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However, it can be fairly definitely assumed that surveyed AAA positions, which could be occupied on short notice, are available in the vicinity of all these bridges. The present report again mentions that most bridges are being guarded by German police.

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